

LISTING OF CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method, comprising:

receiving, from a user, a request for information that includes a definition of a target rule for detection of target hits in an article, wherein the target rule comprises: a concept list comprising an origin concept, a relationship between the origin concept and an evaluated ~~term~~ concept, and a distance representing a strength of the relationship between the origin concept and the evaluated ~~term~~ concept, and

a target scope that characterizes a document region to which the ~~target rule~~ concept list is to be applied;

receiving a definition of an extraction rule ~~that is based on the target rule~~, wherein the extraction rule definition comprises an extraction scope that characterizes a document region to be extracted;

~~applying the target rule to document regions of the article characterized by the target scope;~~

determining a target score for the document regions of the article, wherein the score represents how well the document regions relate to the target rule concept list ~~is satisfied by the document regions;~~

applying the extraction rule to the article to determine an extract from the article, wherein the application of the extraction rule is based on the determined target score; and

outputting the extract in response to the request for information.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein~~[[:]~~
~~applying the target rule comprises detecting a plurality of target hits; and~~
applying the extraction rule comprises extracting a plurality of extracts.
3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2, further comprising sorting the extracts based on the extraction rule.
4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising selecting a first extract from the article for output based on the target score.
5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, ~~wherein the target rule~~ further ~~comprises~~ comprising receiving a target score formula for determining the target score.
6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 5, wherein ~~applying~~ determining the target ~~rule score~~ score comprises using the target score formula ~~to detect target hits.~~
7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the ~~target rule~~ request for information further comprises a ~~[[a]]~~ gist defined as a vector of weighted concepts.
8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the ~~target rule~~ request for information further comprises a concept set that comprises the concept list and a second concept.
9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8, wherein the second concept comprises a product of set operations on two or more other concepts.
10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7, wherein the gist comprises a user defined gist.

11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7, wherein the gist comprises a calculated gist of a document region.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the document region characterized by the target scope comprises an article, a sentence, or a term.

13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the document region characterized by the extraction scope comprises an article, a sentence, or a term.

14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising preprocessing the article, wherein preprocessing comprises:

determining at least one concept associated with the article; and

determining a gist of the article.

15. (Currently Amended) An article comprising one or more computer-readable data storage media containing program code operable to cause one or more machines to perform operations, the operations comprising:

receiving, from a user, a request for information that includes a definition of a target rule for detection of target hits in an article, wherein the target rule comprises: a concept list comprising an origin concept, a relationship between the origin concept and an evaluated ~~term~~ concept, and a distance representing a strength of the relationship between the origin concept and the evaluated ~~term~~ concept, and

a target scope that characterizes a document region to which the target rule is to be applied;

receiving a definition of an extraction rule that is based on the target rule, wherein the

extraction rule definition comprises an extraction scope that characterizes a document region to be extracted;

~~applying the target rule to document regions of the article characterized by the target scope;~~

determining a target score for the document regions of the article, wherein the score represents how well the document regions relate to the target rule concept list ~~is satisfied by the document regions;~~

applying the extraction rule to the article to determine an extract from the article, wherein the application of the extraction rule is based on the determined target score; and

outputting the extract in response to the request for information.

16. (Currently Amended) The article of claim 15, wherein[[:]]

~~applying the target rule comprises detecting a plurality of target hits; and~~

applying the extraction rule comprises extracting a plurality of extracts..

17. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 16, further comprising sorting the extracts based on the extraction rule.

18. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 15, further comprising selecting a first extract from the article for output based on the target score.

19. (Currently Amended) The article of claim 15, ~~wherein the target rule further comprises~~ comprising receiving a target score formula for determining the target score.

20. (Currently Amended) The article of claim 19, wherein ~~applying~~ determining the target ~~rule~~ score comprises using the target score formula ~~to detect target hits~~.

21. (Currently Amended) The article of claim 15, wherein the ~~target rule~~ request for information further comprises a ~~[[a]]~~ gist defined as a vector of weighted concepts.

22. (Currently Amended) The article of claim 15, wherein the ~~target rule~~ request for information further comprises a concept set that comprises the concept list and a second concept.

23. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 22, wherein the second concept comprises a product of set operations on two or more other concepts.

24. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 21, wherein the gist comprises a user defined gist.

25. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 21 wherein the gist comprises a calculated gist of a document region.

26. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 15, wherein the document region characterized by the target scope comprises an article, a sentence, or a term.

27. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 15, wherein the document region characterized by the extraction scope comprises an article, a sentence, or a term.

28. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 15, further comprising preprocessing the article, wherein preprocessing comprises:

determining at least one concept associated with the article; and
determining a gist of the article.

29. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein:

the origin concept comprises a group of related words, relationships with other concepts, the strengths of the relationships, and statistics regarding the usage of the origin concept in a language.

Claims 30.-34. (Canceled)

35. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein receiving the definition of the extraction rule further comprises receiving a definition of a sort order in which extracts are to be sorted for output.

36. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 15, wherein receiving the definition of the extraction rule further comprises receiving a definition of a sort order in which extracts are to be sorted for output.

37. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the distance comprises a numeric representation of the strength of the relationship between the origin concept and [[an]] the evaluated concept.

38. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the relationship comprises one of “is a product of”, “is a part of”, “is a kind of”, “has kind”, or “has part”.

39. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the origin concept comprises at least one search term.

40. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8, wherein the concept set further comprises at least one set operation.

41. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 40, wherein the set operation comprises one of "AND", "OR", and "AND NOT".

42. (Currently Amended) The article of claim 15, wherein the distance comprises a numeric representation of the strength of the relationship between the origin concept and [[an]] the evaluated concept.

43. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 15, wherein the relationship comprises one of "is a product of", "is a part of", "is a kind of", "has kind", or "has part".

44. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 15, wherein the origin concept comprises at least one search term.

45. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 22, wherein the concept set further comprises at least one set operation.

46. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 45, wherein the set operation comprises one of "AND", "OR", and "AND NOT".

47. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method for extracting a subset of a document, comprising:

receiving, from a user, a request for information that describing describes a combination of two or more ~~concepts~~ concept lists, wherein [[a]] each concept list is defined through a collection of related words by an origin concept, a relationship between the origin concept and an evaluated concept, and a distance representing a strength of the relationship between the origin concept and the evaluated concept[[:]] , wherein ~~combining~~ the two or more ~~concepts~~ concept lists are combined using an operation to define a target definition that is to be detected;

receiving a description of a document region targeted for extraction;

accessing a document;

based on the target definition and the document regions targeted for extraction, extracting one or more regions of the accessed document; and

making the extracted regions available for output in response to the request for information.

48. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 47, wherein the origin concepts each comprise a lexical concept defined by a group of related words and relationships with related concepts.